and when vacancy occurs; if not what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) 3,00,851 as on 31-3-85.

(b) An Extra Departmental Agent, who performs only part time job for the Department for fixed hours of work, on consideration of a consolidated monthly allowance, cannot, in the very nature of things, be regarded as full time Government servents. Therefore there is no question of regularising the services of ED Agents against regular departmental posts. However, the ED Agents are eligible to appear in a qualifying departmental examination for promotion to the Postmen|Group 'D' cadre etcs. subject to certain conditions.

Waiting List of Telephones

1440. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the waiting list in different categories for telephone conncetions in the country by the end of the Sixth Plan and the targets of providing new connections during the Seventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) whether his Department has enough funds to provide telephones to new applicants during the Seventh Five Year Plan period;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative what steps Government propose to take in the matter.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Waiting list at the end of the Sixth Plan for OYT category was around .57 and for Non-OYT category aorund 7.772 lakhs. It is proposed to provide 11 lakh additional Direct Exchange lines during the 7th Five Year Plan.

(b) No. Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Attempts are being made to mobilise more resources through market borrowings. Towards this end as a first step a Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited is being constituted.

Casual Workers in Bihar Postal Services

1441. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are a large number of casual workers in Bihar Postal Services working for the last several years and their services are not being regularised; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to regularise their services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) Services of casual workers are regularised by appointment against regular group D vacancies. As per extent provisions uniformally applicable to all Central Government departments, full-time casual workers who have worked for 240 days in each of the 2 years preceding the year of regularisation and part-time casual workers who have worked for 480 days in each of the preceding 4 years became eligible for regularisation. All casual workers recruited before 1982 in Bihar Postal Circle have been so regularised. Services of 831 casual workers recruited after 1982 in Bihar Postal Circle are yet to be regularised for want of regular Group D vacancies. Their services will be regularised as and when regular vacancies in Group D became available in Bihar Postal Circle.

Waiting List of Telephones in Allahabad

1442. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position of prospective subscribers on the waiting list of Allahabad Telephones for various categories as on the 5th February, 1986; and